Page:

USSN. 09/334,891 A.U. 1772 Facsimile Transmission of January 28, 2002

the creased pattern not presenting breaks causing the breakage of the material by folding along lines of the pattern.

- 5. (Amended) Multi-layer material according to claim 1 in which the polyester film is a film subjected on one side to a treatment capable to impart gas barrier properties or <u>is</u> coated with a layer of material having gas barrier properties, <u>in such small quantity that the film can be considered in recycling as foamed of only polyester material</u>.
- 16. (Amended) [Containers] Recyclable containers for beverages or foods manufactured from the multi-layer material according to claim 1.

Please cancel claim 2 and add the following new claim 22:

22. Multilayer material according to claim 1 in which the polyester forming the multilayered material is an aromatic polyester obtained by polycondensation of an aromatic dicarboxylic acid with a diol of 2-12 carbon atoms.

## Clean Version of all the pending claims:

1. Recyclable heat-sealable multi-layer polyester material suitable for the production of containers for beverages and foods, formed of a layer of a foamed polyester resin sheet having density lower than 700 kg/m<sup>3</sup> and, adhered to the foamed sheet, a heat-sealable film of polyester resin, having a melting point from 50° to 200° C, said material having creased on it a pattern suitable to develop by folding the shape of a container, the creased pattern not presenting breaks causing the break age of the material by folding along lines of the pattern.

- 3. Multi-layer material according to claim 2 in which the polyester film is obtained from a resin with melting point from 80 to 110°C.
- 4. Material according to claim 1 in which the polyester film is a coextruded dual layer film, one layer of which is formed of a low melting polyester having a melting point from 50° to 200°C and the other layer is a polyester having a melting point higher than 200°C.
- 5. Multi-layer material according to claim 1 in which the polyester film is a film subjected on one side to a treatment capable to impart gas barrier properties or is coated with a layer of material having gas barrier properties, in such small quantity that the film can be considered in recycling as foamed of only polyester material.
- 6. Material according to claim 5 in which the polyester film having barrier properties presents oxygen permeation rate lower than 70 ml/m<sup>3</sup>/24h/atm (ASTM 1434).
- 7. Material according to claim 6 in which the polyester film is metallized with Al or coated with a layer of aluminum or silicon oxide.
- 8. Multi-layer material according to claim 6 in which the polyester film is coated with a layer of potassium or lithium polysilicates.
- 9. Material according to claim 1 in which the polyester film is obtained from a copolyethylene terephthalate in which more than 10% of the units deriving from terephthalic acid are substituted with units deriving from isophthalic acid.
- 10. Multi-layer material according to claim 1 in which the polyester film is made to adhere to the foamed sheet by using a polyester glue or by hot lamination.
- 11. Multi-layer material according to claim 1 in which the foamed sheet has a density from 10 to 500 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.
- 12. Multi-layer material according to claim 1 in which the foamed sheet has a density 12. from 100 to 200 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

USSN. 09/334,891 A.U. 1772 Facsimite Transmission of January 28, 2002

- 13. Multi-layer material according to claim 1 having a thickness from 0.2 to 3 mm.
- 14. Multi-layer material according to claim 13 having a thickness from 0.2 to 1.5 mm.
- 15. Multi-layered material according to claim 1 in which the polyester resin of the foam sheet is selected from polyethylene terephthalate and copolyethylene terephthalates in which up to 20 % of the units derives from isophthalic acid.

16. Recyclable containers for beverages or foods manufactured from the multi-layer naterial according to claim 1.

- 17. Containers according to claim 16 in which the layer that comes into contact with the beverage or food is made of a polyester film adhered to the foamed polyester sheet, and in which the closure is realized by heat sealing on itself the polyester film adhered to the foamed sheet.
- 18. Containers according to claim 17 for fruit juices or sterilized milk in which the polyester film is treated on the side adhered to the foamed sheet with a material capable of conferring barrier properties corresponding to oxygen permeation rate lower than 70 ml/m<sup>2</sup>/24h/atm.
- 19. Containers according to preceding claim 18 in which the oxygen permeation rate of the treated polyester film is less than 10 ml/m<sup>2</sup>/24h/atm.
- 20. Containers according to preceding claim 19 in which the oxygen permeation rate is less than 0.3 ml/m²/24h/atm.
- 21. Containers according to claim 19 in which the polyester film is coated with a layer aluminum or Al and/or Si oxide.
- 22. Multilayer material according to claim 1 in which the polyester forming the multilayered material is an aromatic polyester obtained by polycondensation of an aromatic dicarboxylic acid with a diol of 2-12 carbon atoms.

P2